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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 2448 Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

1

February 8, 2002

Date

Applicant

Application No.

Filed

August 30, 2000

For

METHODS

AND

APPARATUS FOR **REMOVING**

CONDUCTIVE MATERIAL FROM A MICROELECTRONIC

SUBSTRATE

Examiner

Dung V. Nguyen

Art Unit

3723

Docket No.

108298515US

Date

February 8, 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Commissioner:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 10, 2002, applicant hereby elects species 4 (directed to embodiments shown in Figures 9 and 10), claims 1-3, 5-9, 13, 14, 16-18, 22-26, 29-32, 37, 39-44, 47-50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 61-63, 66-69, 74-77, 80 and 81 for examination at this time.

In view of the above election, applicant hereby withdraws claims 4, 10-12, 15, 19-21, 27, 28, 33-36, 38, 45, 46, 51, 54, 57-60, 64, 65, 70-73, 78 and 79 without prejudice to consideration of these claims upon allowance of a generic claim, and/or in any divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part application. Consideration of the elected claims is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Perkins Coie LLP

John M. Wechkin

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